

Application No.: 09/434,440

Docket No.: 20162-00534-US

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATIONPage 3, ~~paragraph~~ 2 should read:

a1 The followings are pertinent references, but do not ~~self~~resolve the above stated problems: Japanese Patent Application Laid Open Nos. 6-223250 (August. 12, 1994), 6-176228 (June 24, 1994), 7-28915 (Jan. 31, 1995), 10-74182 (March 17, 1998), 10-283420 (Oct. 23, 1998), 1-177164 (July 13, 1989), and 10-74046 (March 17, 1998). D. Chaum, "Elections with Unconditionally-Secret Ballots and Disruption Equivalent to Breaking RSA", in Advances in Cryptology, EUROCRYPT '88, Lecture Notes in Computer Science 330, Springer-Verlag, Berlin, pp. 177-182 (1988), L. F. Cranor et al., "Design and Implementation of a Practical Security-Conscious Electronic Polling System", WUCS-96-02, Department of Computer Science, Washington University, St. Louis (Jan., 1996), M. A. Herschberg, "Secure Electronic Voting Over the World Wide Web", Masters Thesis in Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (1997).

Page 5, ~~paragraph~~ 2 should read:

a2 The decryption ~~of~~ key is in the possession of the counter, and the voter needs not to communicate with the counter again for vote counting.